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Message Text

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21
ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 OMB-01

AID-05 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 /053 W
---------- 118790
O 070651Z DEC 74
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 906
USDEL JEC PARIS IMMEDIATE
CINCPAC HONOLULU IMMEDIATE
USSAG NKP IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 15186

FOLLOWING TEL SENT ACTION IMMEDIATE SAIGON REPEATED FOR YOUR INFO
DTD 7 DEC 74

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BIEN HOA 620

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MOPS, VS
SUBJECT: MILITARY SITUATION IN MR3

1. CONSISTENT WITH EXPECTATIONS OF INCREASED MILITARY ACTIVITY IN MR3 BEGINNING THIS MONTH, THERE HAS BEEN A NOTABLE INCREASE OF INCIDENTS DURING THE PAST FEW DAYS. THEY ROSE TO 42 IN THE 24-HOUR PERIOD ENDING 0800 HOURS DECEMBER 7 COMPARED WITH 31 IN THE PRECEDING 24 HOURS AND 15 THE DAY BEFORE. THE MOST SIGNIFICANT ACTIONS HAVE BEEN NORTHEAST OF TAY NINH CITY WHERE THE VC WERE STILL INSIDE GVN VILLAGES AT MID-MORNING DECEMBER 7. CONTINUED SAPPER ACTIVITY AROUND SAIGON SAW THE DESTRUCTION OF TELEPHONE AND ELECTRICITY POLES LESS THAN TEN KMS WEST OF THE METROPOLITAN AREA. NP YNBBAS A NEW ATTEMPT TO BLOW THE BRIDGE ON ROUTE 20 TO DALAT.

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2. NVA/VC FORCES THUS FAR NOT IDENTIFIED BY UNIT ATTACKED

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SOUI DA, PHUOC LONG, AND PHUOC HOI HAMLETS ON ROUTE 13 SOME
12 KMS NE OF TAY NINH CITY ON THE MORNING OF DECEMBER 7. THE
ATTACKS WERE PRECEDED BY AFB'S. AS OF MID-MORNING RESISTANCE WAS
CONTINUING AGAINST COMMUNIST ELEMENTS STILL INSIDE THE POPULATED
AREAS. EARLIER, BEGINNING ABOUT 0300 HOURS, THE
GVN BASE ATOP BA DINH MOUNTAIN JUST NORTH OF TAY NINH CITY RECEIVED
300 ROUNDS OF 82MM MORTAR AND RECOILLESS RIFLE FIRE. ATOP THE
MOUNTAIN TWO ENEMY BODIES WERE DISCOVERED NEAR FRIENDLY DEFENSE
POSITIONS AT DAYBREAK.

3. IN GIA DINH THE NVA/VC KNOCKED DOWN TWO
ELECTRICITY POLES WITH EXPLOSIVES AND FIVE WITH AXES IN THE EARLY
MORNING HOURS OF DECEMBER 7 IN BINH CHANH DISTRICT ABOUT 9 KMS
SW OF SAIGON.

4. IN LONG KHANH ALONG ROUTE 20 TO DALAT, A RAFT OF EXPLOSIVES
INTENDED FOR THE BRIDGE OVER THE LA NGA RIVER IN DINH QUAN
DISTRICT WAS EXPLODED HARMLESSLY AWAY FROM THE BRIDGE DEC 6.
FRIENDLY FORCES REMOVED A ROADBLOCK WITHOUT CASUALTIES THE SAME DAY
SEVERAL KMS TO THE NORTHEAST.

5. IN HAU NGHIA PROVINCE RF AND PF FORCES GAVE A GOOD
ACCOUNT OF THEMSELVES IN HOLDING OFF ATTACKS ON SEVERAL OUTPOSTS
GENERALLY BETWEEN ROUTE 1 AND THE SAIGON RIVER. FIVE ROUNDS
OF 122MM ROCKETS WERE FIRED INTO THE CU CHI BASE CAMP DEC 6
KILLING TWO FEMALE LABORERS BUT WITHOUT MATERIAL DAMAGE. ONE
ROUND FELL NEAR THE ICCS COMPOUND WITHOUT DAMAGE OR CASUALTIES.

6. INCREASED ACTIVITY IN MR3 FITS THE PATTERN PREDICTED FOR THE
BEGINNING OF THE NVA/VC 1974/75 DRY SEASON CAMPAIGN WHICH HAD
BEEN EXPECTED THIS MONTH.
PETERS
UNQUOTE
LEHMANN

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